

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

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P R 271136Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5449

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 7645

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PO, IZ

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO IRAQ

SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES DEPARTED DEC. 27 FOR THREE

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DAY VISIT TO IRAQ. ANTUNES HOPES TO ARRANGE A BARTER FOR PETROLEUM,

OBTAIN A GOLD-SECURED LOAN, AND DEVELOP BUSINESS FOR PORTUGUESE SHIPYARDS AND CONSTRUCTORS OF OFFSHORE PLATFORMS. ANTUNES MAY ALSO VISIT OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA. SO FAR THE GOP EFFORT TO DEVELOP A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES HAS NOT PAID OFF IN CONCRETE RESULTS.

1. FOREIGN MINISTER MELO ANTUNES DEPARTED DEC. 27 ON A SPECIAL PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE FLIGHT FOR AN OFFICIAL THREE DAY VISIT TO IRAQ. ANTUNES LEAVES IRAQ ON DEC. 31 AND THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT HE WILL VISIT OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA.

2. PARTY: ACCOMPANYING ANTUNES ARE: CENTRAL MILITARY REGION COMMANDER AND FELLOW REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEMBER BG CHARAIS, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLIC INVESTMENT SOUSA GOMES, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL COMMERCE ANTONIO BARRETO, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY AND MINES MARQUES VIDEIRA, MOURA VICENTE OF SETNAVE (A SUPERTANKER SIZE DRYDOCK FACILITY FOR REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION), CARLOS MELANCIA OF SOREFAME (AMONG OTHER THINGS FABRICATORS OF OFF-SHORE DRILLING PLATFORMS), SEBASTIAO RIBEIRO OF SACOR (STATE-OWNED OIL COMPANY), AND RAUL CAPELA OF THE BANCO PORTUGUES DO ATLANTICO.

3. PURPOSE OF TRIP: DUE TO ACTIVITIES OF PORTUGAL'S GULBENKIAN FOUNDATION IN IRAQ, THERE HAS EXISTED A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND IRAQ. ANTUNES HOPES TO EXPLOIT THIS RELATIONSHIP IN ORDER TO ARRANGE A BARTER FOR PETROLEUM, OBTAIN A GOLD-SECURED LOAN AND DEVELOP BUSINESS FOR SETNAVE AND SOREFAME.

4. COMMENT: ANTUNES HAS BEEN A LEADING EXPONENT OF THE NEED FOR PORTUGAL TO DEVELOP A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE THIRD WORLD, PARTICULARLY THE ARAB STATES WITH OIL AND MONEY. SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO EVIDENCE THAT THIS POLICY HAS PAID OFF IN A CONCRETE FASHION.
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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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